

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been canceled. Claims 2-10 and 12-19 have been amended. The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the original disclosure and no new matter has been introduced.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

In the subject Office Action, claim 9 was objected to as being dependent on rejected base claim 1 (there were no intervening claims), with the Examiner stating that claim 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Claim 9 has been amended to place it in independent form, including all of the limitations of base claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 9 is in condition of allowance and request that the Examiner withdraw the claim objection to claim 9.

III. Claims 17-19 Claim Objections

In the subject Office Action, claims 17-19 were objected to due to the stated reason that their order was reversed. Applicants have determined previously undetected informalities were present in claims 17 and 18. In claim 17, the term "claim 18" was meant to read "claim 16." In claim 18, the term "claim 19" was meant to read "claim 17." Dependent claim 17 refers to "the insertion logic," relying on the antecedent basis provided by "insertion logic" provided in claim 16. Dependent claim 18 refers to "the interface buffer," relying on the antecedent basis provided by "an interface buffer" provided in claim 17. Applicants have amended claims 17 and 18 to correct the above informalities, and respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the claim objections to claims 17-19.

IV. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In the subject Office Action, claims 1-4, 6, 8 and 10-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bisson et al ("Bisson"). While Applicants

respectfully disagree that Bisson anticipates the above rejected claims, Applicants have canceled claim 1, and have amended claims 2-4, 6, 8, 10 and 12-13 in order to expedite prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation during the pendency of this application in order to further pursue the above claims as originally submitted.

Claims 2-4, 6, 8 and 10-12 now all depend on claim 9, with claim 11 depending on claim 9 through claim 10. Therefore, for at least the same reasons claim 9 has been determined patentable, claims 2-4, 6, 8 and 10-12 are patentable. Applicants have amended independent claim 13 to have in substance the same recitations as in former claim 9. Therefore, for at least the same reasons claim 9 has been determined patentable, claim 13 is patentable.

V. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

In the subject Office Action, claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bisson. While Applicants respectfully disagree that claim 5 is unpatentable over Bisson, Applicants have amended claim 5 in order to expedite prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation during the pendency of this application in order to further pursue claim 5 as originally submitted. Claim 5 now depends on claim 9. Therefore, for at least the same reasons claim 9 has been determined patentable, claim 5 is patentable.

In the subject Office Action, claims 7 and 14-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bisson in view of Nakabayashi. While Applicants respectfully disagree that claims 7 and 14-19 are unpatentable over Bisson in view of Nakabayashi, Applicants have can have amended claims 7, 14-16 and 19 in order to expedite prosecution. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation during the pendency of this application in order to further pursue the original limitations of claims 7 and 14-19, corrected of the initial informalities of claims 17-18. Claim 7 now depends on claim 9. Therefore, for at least the same reasons claim 9 has been determined patentable, claim 7 is patentable. Applicants have amended independent claims 14-16 and 19 to have in substance the same recitations as in former claim 9. Therefore, for at

least the same reasons claim 9 has been determined patentable, claims 14-16 and 19 are patentable. Claims 17-18 depend on claim 16, incorporating its limitations, which include the limitations of former claim 9. Therefore, for at least the same reasons claim 9 has been determined patentable, claims 17-18 are patentable.

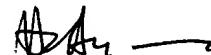
VI. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit claims 2-19 are in condition of allowance. Issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge shortages or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
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